

Sustainability Through Service:
An Annual Arbor Day Community Service Event

An Honors Thesis (Honors 499)

By

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy L. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line drawn through the middle of the letters.

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Abstract

J. Sterling Morton first proposed Arbor Day in the state of Nebraska in 1872. Over the last 140 years the holiday has spread not only across the United States, but also around the globe. Arbor Day is a unique celebration, which has always focused on future generations rather than the past (Lehman, 2009). Presently, sustainability is widely recognized as an overarching theme in American society. Establishment of an Annual Arbor Day community service event at Ball State University represents the University's commitment to not only the current surrounding community members, but also to those of future generations. The following includes a brief history of Arbor Day and an examination of how it is currently celebrated globally, nationally and regionally. Furthermore, the primary focus of this project was solidifying an Annual Arbor Day community service event for Ball State University students. An environmentally focused community service event promotes sustainability through service to others. Upon completion of securing an Annual Arbor Day event, the University faculty and students can now focus on achieving the distinction of becoming a Tree Campus USA ("Tree Campus", n.d.).

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A Brief History of Arbor Day

J. Sterling Morton

Arbor Day was first proposed by Julius Sterling Morton in 1872. Morton was born in Adams, New York on April 22, 1832 (Lehman, 2009). As a young boy, he attended school at the Wesleyan Seminary in Albion, Michigan. He later attended the University of Michigan, but ultimately obtained his Bachelor of the Arts degree at Union College in the state of New York. Following in the footsteps of his grandfather and uncle who were newspaper publishers, he initially found work as a reporter at the Detroit Free Press. He married Caroline Joy French in 1854 and together they moved to Nebraska City, Nebraska, where he established his own newspaper, dubbed the Nebraska City News. In the years that followed, he emerged as a political leader in the young Nebraska territory. J. Sterling Morton was well known as a steadfast, conservative Democrat. Just four years after his arrival in Nebraska, Morton was appointed by President James Buchanan as secretary of the new territory. Shortly after, he went on to serve as the territory's acting governor from September 1858 through May 1859. In 1860, a failed campaign for a seat in congress diverted his focus from politics to his passion for forestry. He began by planting a variety of forest and fruit trees on his own homestead to determine which trees would flourish in that particular region (Anderson, 2000). In conjunction with his personal passion for tree planting, he served as president of the State Board of Agriculture for several years after his defeat in the congressional election. It was through this position he was able to propose the idea of Arbor Day (Lehman). During the Nebraska Board of Agriculture meeting on January 4, 1872, he proposed that the 10th of April be "set apart and consecrated for tree planting in the State of Nebraska, and the State Board of Agriculture hereby name it Arbor Day; and urge upon the people of the State the vital importance of tree planting

(Anderson).” The Board passed his proposal by a unanimous vote and Nebraska went on to observe its first Arbor Day on April 10, 1872 (Lehman).

B.G. Northrup

Another name often attributed with the founding of Arbor Day is B.G. Northrup. While J. Sterling Morton focused on the economic aspect of tree planting, Northrup focused on the educational opportunities of the holiday. Northrup aspired to bring the celebration of Arbor Day into the schools and educate young Americans about the importance of planting and caring for trees. In 1883, he proposed a resolution to a meeting of the American Forestry Association. He proposed that Arbor Day be observed in schools in every state. The American Forestry Association accepted his proposal and established a committee to oversee the attainment of the newly adopted goal (Schauffler, 1909). Four years later, during an address to the State University in Lincoln, Nebraska, J. Sterling Morton also emphasized the importance of recognizing Arbor Day in the schools. According to Morton, “That which should survive in America must harmonize with education and refinement. Whatsoever the schools, the teachers, and the pupils shall foster and encourage, shall live and flourish, mentally and morally, forever (Egleston, 1896).”

Arbor Day Today

Shared Vision

Today, 140 years after the first proposed Arbor Day, it is celebrated not only in all 50 United States, but also around the globe. In 1970, in response to a declining interest toward Arbor Day, President Richard Nixon declared it an official national holiday, which was to be annually observed on the last Friday in April. In some states it is observed on a day of the year that is more conducive to their climate’s tree planting season (Lehman, 2009). For example, in

Hawaii, Arbor Day is celebrated on the first Friday in November (“Arbor Day”, n.d.). John Rosenow, Chief Executive of the Arbor Day Foundation (ADF) says the holiday represents “a priceless opportunity.” In a letter to readers of the “Celebrate Arbor Day Guidebook” distributed by the ADF, Rosenow goes on to describe the holiday as follows:

An opportunity for children to take positive action to make their world a better place and to learn about trees and the natural world. An opportunity for neighbors to join together for the benefit of all. An opportunity for communities to reach across barriers of income, geography, culture, and politics to work for the common good (“How to Celebrate”, n.d.).

Rosenow’s sentiments and the mere existence of the ADF are strong evidence of the realization of J. Sterling Morton and B.G. Winthrop’s dreams in modern society. Accordingly, a commonality that has lasted throughout the years is the idea that Arbor Day represents a holiday vested in future generations. As J. Sterling Morton emphasized during his initial proposal of the holiday in 1872, “Other holidays repose upon the past; Arbor Day proposes for the future (“How to Celebrate”, n.d.).”

Benefits of Trees

Although the holiday has withstood the test of time, it has certainly not done so without some slight modifications. J. Sterling Morton’s society feared the slow disappearance of trees for primarily economic reasons. He lived in a society in which

the service of trees to us begins with the cradle and ends with the coffin. But it continues through our lives, and is of almost unimaginable extent and variety. In this country our houses and their furniture and the fences that inclose them are largely the product of trees (Schauffler, 1909).

Although today’s society is not as heavily reliant on wood as a building product, it places a great

emphasis on trees for a variety of other reasons. The more modern focus on arboriculture is best summed up by Josh Rosenow, Chief Executive of the ADF, who states, “The trees we plant clean the air, beautify our neighborhoods, provide homes for wildlife, conserve energy and topsoil, and help keep the atmosphere in balance (“How to Celebrate”, n.d.).” Accordingly, the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service boasts that strategic placement of trees around a facility can result in a thirty percent reduction in the building’s cooling costs and reduce the cost of heating up to fifty percent. Furthermore, the Forest Service states that a property’s value can be increased an average of ten percent by the addition of mature trees in good health (Wolfe, 2012). Although the driving force behind the holiday has shifted from a vested interest in the economy to a focus on the nation’s environment and sustainability, the end result has remained the same; new trees are planted annually for the benefit of future generations.

Arbor Day in Muncie, Indiana

Tree City USA Program

National observance of the holiday continues to take place annually on the last Friday of April. Around that particular day throughout the nation, Arbor Day celebrations are held in cities, small communities and on some college campuses. Some cities, including Muncie, Indiana, can boast their title as Tree City USA (Walker, 2012).

The Tree City USA program was created through collaboration of the ADF, United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service, and the National Association of State Foresters. According to the ADF, some benefits of becoming a Tree City USA are, “creating a framework for action, education, a positive public image, and citizen pride.” A community must meet four standards to be awarded the distinction. The community applying for recognition must have a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, a community forestry program with an annual

budget of at least two dollars per capita, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation (“Tree City”, n.d.). Muncie’s 2012 recognition as a Tree City USA marks the fourteenth time the community has received the honorable distinction (Walker, 2012). Currently, more than 3,400 communities across the United States are recognized with this title (“Tree City”)

Tree Campus USA

A similar program sponsored by the ADF is the Tree Campus USA program. Similar to the Tree City USA program, in order to be awarded this distinction, a campus must meet five standards. The five requirements established by the ADF for becoming a Tree Campus USA include, “a Campus Tree Advisory Committee, a Campus Tree Care Plan, a Campus Tree Program with Dedicated Annual Expenditures, an Arbor Day Observance and a Service-Learning Project (“Tree Campus”, n.d.). Currently, 148 colleges are recognized with the honorable distinction as a Tree Campus USA. Among those schools are four Indiana colleges; Purdue University, Vincennes University, Indiana State University and Indiana University, Bloomington. Surprisingly, although the city of Muncie has earned the distinction of being named a Tree City USA, Ball State University, located within Muncie, has not obtained recognition as a Tree Campus USA (“Tree Campus”).

Sustainability and Service at Ball State University

Fall 2008

Although the Ball State University community places an impressive emphasis on sustainability and the environment, very little emphasis has been directed toward Arbor Day in previous years. My personal interest in environmental community service is rooted in my heavy involvement as a leader in Ball State University Student Voluntary Services (SVS). Each academic year, prior to the beginning of classes, the executive board convenes and reviews the

organization's goals, expectations and mission statement. Upon my arrival as a freshman in the Fall of 2008, the SVS mission statement included the notion that the organization strived to promote sustainability on Campus and in the surrounding communities. Unfortunately, at that time, SVS actually had very few environmental community service opportunities to offer the students. Furthermore, none of the existing one-time events were focused on sustainability or the environment.

Fall 2009

In the Fall of 2009, as vice president, I participated in the executive board discussion regarding removing sustainability from the SVS mission statement. The board reached the conclusion that SVS did not promote sustainability on a large enough scale for it to appear in the mission statement. The final decision was put to a vote by the program coordinators (leaders of SVS: PCs for short) who ultimately decided to completely remove the notion of sustainability. However, the executive board elected to maintain a goal of establishing more environmental community service opportunities for the students.

Sprouting Service: Spring 2010

In the Spring of 2010, on April 24th, an environmental one-time event was held for students. The event consisted of assisting a small local nonprofit farm in the planting of over five hundred sapling trees. Some of the trees were planted in trenches dug by a tree planter pulled behind a tractor. All remaining trees were planted the old-fashioned way, with a shovel and a brief educational tutorial on proper tree planting, given by the farmer upon arrival that morning. Soil conservation and protection were the purpose behind planting the trees. Approximately half of the trees were planted in the flood plain of a creek to prevent further erosion of soil in the area. Additionally, trees were planted around the borders of the property to

prevent chemical overspray blowing off of neighboring fields from contaminating the farm's organic soil. The event was well liked by the fifteen students who participated and a total of 75 hours of community service were performed. Photos from the event are located in Appendix A. I was elected to serve as president of SVS for the 2010-2011 academic year and the SVS goals were again routinely reviewed in the Fall of 2010. In accordance with the overwhelming success of the first environmental one-time event, the board created the goal of maintaining an event of the same nature for the Spring of 2011.

Branching Out: Spring 2011

On April 30, 2011, twenty-nine SVS volunteers planted young trees during the Annual Muncie Arbor Day Celebration for a total of 87 community service hours. As a result, fifteen trees native to the region were planted in Muncie's Westside Park. Student volunteers received instructions on proper planting techniques and were presented with an immediate opportunity to apply their newly acquired knowledge of arboriculture. Collaboration between SVS, Student Government Association (SGA) and the Natural Resources Club (NRC) produced the 2011 event. SVS planned and executed the event, SGA provided funding for volunteer transportation through the Co-Sponsorship program and NRC served as an excellent resource for event contacts in the Muncie area. As a whole, the day ran smoothly, however, one undesirable aspect of the day was the separation between the two events. Although both events occurred simultaneously, there was very little interaction between the student volunteers and the community members who were attending and volunteering at the city's Arbor Day Celebration. Ultimately, it appeared as though two events celebrating Arbor Day were occurring separately in the same park. After the completion of a second consecutive environmental community service event, it became evident that transformation of the event into an annual one-time event had strong potential for success.

Photos from the event are located in Appendix B.

Arbor Day and Ball State University

Digging-In: Fall 2011

The decision to run for a second term as SVS's president was not one I took lightly. I spent a solid two months evaluating my potential to contribute something more to the organization than I had in previous years. Ultimately, I concluded I had the passion, enthusiasm and love of community service necessary for furthering positive development of the organization in the 2011-2012 academic year. Just as before, evaluation of the goals took place before classes in August. Once again, the executive board altered the environmental community service goal. The new goal was to solidify the environmental community service event as one of the organization's consistently reoccurring annual one-time events.

Getting My Hands Dirty

As an undergraduate student in my senior year, serving as the president of SVS, I felt personally obligated to ensure the attainment of the organization's newly adopted goal. In January of 2012 I took sole responsibility for planning and solidifying the event. Over the past three and a half years I served on numerous planning committees required for the organization's pre-existing one-time events. Based on my experience with planning events, I knew this task would not be completed without overcoming obstacles and challenges along the way. The somewhat daunting opportunity represented the perfect chance for me to utilize the knowledge and skills I had acquired through my past endeavors in SVS. In an academic sense, it was my cumulative final project for SVS.

The first decision to be made involved deciding on a specific focus of the event. I struggled greatly with the decision between dedicating the event to celebrating Earth Day, Arbor

Day or a combination of the two holidays. Initially, I felt Earth Day would allow for a greater variety in terms of the types of projects the organization would be able to undertake during the annual event. Ultimately, I decided on Arbor Day. One of the main factors in my decision was event stability. My concern was; if the success of the event was dependant on annually finding a new project, it could easily fail if the committee was unable to find a local environmental community service opportunity. Additionally, I felt it was important to consider that the past two successful events were centered on planting trees. Although change is necessary at times, there is also value in consistency, especially in regards to annual events.

After narrowing down the scope of the event I was ready to move on to seeking-out a community partner. Through my work on other committees, I learned that establishing a positive relationship with a local community partner was essential to the long-term success of the event. Much to my dismay, none of the information from the 2011 event was left for me to use as a reference, and the SVS program coordinator who had led the effort that year graduated a week after the event took place. Left to my own devices, I browsed online for any information on Muncie's Annual Arbor Day Celebration. My first search provided results that led me directly to the Muncie Urban Forestry Program webpage. The contact listed was Kellie McClellan, Muncie' Urban Forester. I contacted Kellie by phone the following day and she was elated by the idea of partnering with SVS this year, and in the future. She went on to explain in dismay that members of the Natural Resources Club on campus had provided educational activities for the children attending the celebration in the past. Unfortunately, they had simply stopped contacting her over the past few years. Although it had not been a part of our event in the past, I told her I could plan an educational children's activity for SVS volunteers to manage during the event. Additionally, I expressed the desire to plant trees as we had done last year. She said we

would certainly be allowed to continue that aspect of the event. After our phone conversation she emailed a list of native trees for me to reference when obtaining trees, because those are the only types of trees that can be planted in the Muncie parks.

My conversation with Kellie was both overwhelming and comforting. Although, our talk had finalized several details of the event, it had also added what seemed like a million new items to my event to-do list. It was now established the event would take place on Saturday, April 28th, from eleven in the morning until one in the afternoon at Muncie's Westside Park. The lengthening list of certainties brought with it a plethora of new unknowns. Deciding which item to address next was challenging, and the planning process was becoming slightly more intimidating with the addition of the unknown children's project. I felt quite flustered and instead of pressing forward with the planning, I floundered in my indecision and focused on my other academic commitments for the remainder of January.

I immediately resumed work on the event once I realized it was less than two months away and I had yet to obtain trees, plan a children's activity, request any necessary funding, arrange volunteer and tree transportation, purchase items or advertize the event. I no longer had the luxury of taking one step at a time; I had no choice but to multitask. I contacted several local tree nurseries via email seeking donations of young native trees for the volunteers to plant. While I awaited their response, I began planning the children's activity. After an hour of searching Google, I decided on papermaking using scrap paper. After reviewing the specific set of instructions I had selected, I realized some one-time purchases would have to be made in order to do the activity. Although SVS does budget funds for established one-time events, my event would not be eligible for event-specific funding until the following year. As a result, I elected to once again seek funding through SGA's Co-sponsorship program. The application for

co-sponsorship was fairly simple and could be completed and submitted directly on the SGA website. After about a week of waiting, all of the remaining details began to fall into place. Bluegrass Farms in Anderson, Indiana agreed to donate fifteen young native trees to the event. SGA agreed to provide \$150.00 through the Co-sponsorship Program. Funding provided by SGA was used to purchase items for the children's papermaking activity. In order to allow the children to make paper at the park with SVS volunteers, it was necessary to purchase an electric blender, four 8"x10" picture frames, small nails, four sponges, four plastic tubs for holding water and window screen material. The step-by-step papermaking instructions used for the event are located in Appendix C ("How to Make", n.d.).

Absolutely everything was beginning to fall into place for the rapidly approaching event. Volunteer transportation would be acquired through the use of SVS vehicles. On the Saturday of the event, two SVS vans were available for use. The vehicles limited the number of potential participants to twelve student volunteers and two PCs needed to drive the vans to the park. Advertisement was done through the Ball State Communications Center emailing system. An email advertizing the environmental community service opportunity, found in Appendix D, was sent to all students who were subscribed to the General Student Info and Student Organizations categories ten days prior to the event. Due to the limited number of spaces and the tendency of students to forget one-time commitments, I did not think it would be necessary or wise to send the email out too far in advance. No more than two days after the email was sent out, the maximum number of volunteers had registered. Austin Farmer, an SVS PC, assisted in picking-up the trees from Anderson with his truck about one week prior to the event. Additionally, he agreed to transport the trees to the park on the morning of the Arbor Day celebration. His assistance was the solution to my tree transportation problems. Finally, the event was less than a

week away. I finalized some last minute details with Kellie, including shovels, water and mulch for planting the trees. One last reminder email, found in Appendix D, was sent to the students who had registered as volunteers the Friday morning prior to the event. Planning had finally reached a conclusion; the only thing remaining was the event itself.

Spreading Roots: Spring 2012

On the morning of the event I woke-up to rain pounding, thunder rumbling and lightning flashing outside my window. I knew the event was a rain or shine event, but I was not quite sure just how much rain would be tolerated. Unfortunately, in addition to the storms, the temperature was hovering somewhere around a chilly 40 degrees Fahrenheit. PC Austin helped me load the trees from my patio into his truck and we headed toward the SVS office to greet any volunteers still brave enough to come despite the less than desirable weather conditions. On our way there it began hailing. Austin remained in the office to greet volunteers, while I headed over to Westside Park to determine whether the weather had postponed the event. The community members volunteering were huddled under the shelter and still waiting for an official decision from Kellie. I left my phone number with a gentleman and headed back to the office. Shortly after I arrived back at the office, I received a phone call reassuring me that the Arbor Day celebration was going to be held as planned. I believe the weather had a negative effect on the number of volunteers who followed through with their commitment. Ultimately, eleven student volunteers completed a total of 33 hours of service. Fifteen native trees were planted in Muncie's Westside Park and young children were taught how to recycle used papers to make handmade paper. Photos and newspaper articles on the event can be found in Appendix E.

Overall, I thought the event ran smoothly despite circumstances beyond my control. The students enjoyed planting and learning how to properly plant the young trees. Children in

attendance were excited by the hands-on papermaking activity facilitated by student volunteers. Additionally, community members and student volunteers mingled a great deal more during the event than they had the previous year. One change I would suggest for the future would be to allow community members to assist with the tree planting. Furthermore, I believe volunteers would benefit from a more in depth pre and post reflection focused on the ideals behind Arbor Day and how they are contributing to present and future generations through their service. Ultimately, I believe the SVS Arbor Day Celebration has now been successfully established as a reoccurring annual one-time event.

The Future of Arbor Day at Ball State University

Becoming a Tree Campus USA

Throughout the process of researching Arbor Day and planning a community service event centered around the holiday, I learned of the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree Campus USA program. The successful establishment of an annual Arbor Day community service event for Ball State University students marks the completion of two of the five standards required to achieve the distinguished honor ("Tree Campus, n.d). I believe Ball State University, in accordance with the campus's strong commitment to sustainability, should strive to meet all five standards and apply for official recognition as a Tree Campus USA. Based on my research, the campus is already surprisingly close to meeting all five standards.

Standard One

Standard one requires the establishment of an active Campus Tree Advisory Committee. The committee must be comprised of at least one representative from the facilities department, faculty, student body and local community. According to the ADF, a preexisting committee can fulfill this requirement so long as it oversees execution of the university's Tree Care Plan ("Tree

Campus”, n.d.). Ball State University’s Council on the Environment (COTE) was established in March, 2001. The mission of COTE is to “provide leadership for initiatives at Ball State University and in the surrounding community that promote the sustainable use of natural resources and the protection of ecological systems that sustain life.” The current council consists of student members, university area representatives, community members, and members from campus administration (“Council”, n.d.). Therefore, Ball State has already met the first requirement. Additionally, I believe the Muncie Urban Forester should be added as a community representative on COTE to provide expertise on the topic of local arboriculture.

Standard Two

Standard two requires the university to maintain and utilize a Campus Tree Care Plan (“Tree Campus, n.d.). In order to determine the university’s current status on this standard, I spoke briefly with Associate Director for Landscape and Environmental Management, Mike Planton. When I asked Mr. Planton if the university currently had a Tree Care Plan, his response was, “do we ever” (personal communication, May 31, 2012). If the campus chooses to apply for Tree Campus USA recognition, members of COTE will need to ensure the current Tree Care Plan meets all of the requirements set forth by the ADF. Although it is unclear whether this standard has been fully met at present, there is certainly a good foundation already in place.

Standard Three

Standard three requires a portion of annual university expenditures to be specifically dedicated to the Campus Tree Program (“Tree Campus”, n.d.). In speaking with Mr. Planton, he also assured me the university does indeed have annual expenditures explicitly dedicated to caring for the trees on campus (personal communication, May 31, 2012). The ADF requires the university to provide proof of an annual work plan in addition to the expenditures allocated to the

completion of items listed in the plan (“Tree Campus”). Ultimately, I believe this standard has already been fulfilled, but will require some simple organization of records for official verification.

Standard Four

Standard four requires the university to participate in an Arbor Day observance. According to the ADF, the observance can take place on campus or in conjunction with the local community celebration (“Tree Campus”, n.d.). Although the extent of university participation should be increased, this standard has already been met to a minimal extent by SVS’s collaboration with the Annual Muncie Arbor Day Celebration. In order to involve a greater number of students in the future, I believe an on campus observance should be held in addition to the collaborative event.

Standard Five

Standard five requires the university to participate in a tree-focused service-learning project. The establishment and solidification of the SVS annual Arbor Day community service project meets the requirements set out by the ADF for standard number five (“Tree Campus”, n.d.). Students who participate in the event learn about arboriculture and sustainability through tree planting and papermaking. My experience in planning the event leads me to believe SVS could play a larger role in the event by delving deeper into the early planning stages of the community event. The number of children’s activities and opportunities for students to volunteer alongside community members could be increased as a result.

The Next Step

A campus must successfully meet all five requirements and submit an application by December 31 to be eligible for recognition as a Tree Campus USA during a given year. It is my

hope that a future student will seek to add Ball State University to the distinguished list of colleges boasting their title as a Tree Campus USA. A solid foundation for the fulfillment of each standard has previously been established. Therefore, minor tweaking and the compilation of records for the official application are all that stands between Ball State University and the honor of becoming a Tree Campus USA college.

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Appendix A

Photos from the 2010 event:



Image 1: Students place trees into a trench dug by the tree planter.



Image 2: A student straightens a tree in the trench.



Image 3: Students fill-in dirt around trees planted in the trench.



Image 4: Students press down soil around a hand-planted tree.



Image 5: Students planting trees by hand.



Image 6: A student digging a hole for a tree seedling.

Appendix B

Photos from the 2011 event:



Image 1: A student digs a hole to plant a tree.



Image 2: Students loosen the roots before planting.



Image 3: Students cover the base of the tree with loose soil.



Image 4: Students pry a tree from its plastic container.



Image 5: Students collect water in buckets to water newly planted trees.

Appendix C

Papermaking instructions used for the 2012 event (“How to Make”, n.d.):

Instructions:

1. Select the pieces of paper to be recycled. You can even mix different types to create your own unique paper.
 2. Rip the paper into small bits, and place into the blender. (about half full). Fill the blender with warm water. Run the blender slowly at first then increase the speed until the pulp looks smooth and well blended. (30 -40 seconds) Check that no flakes of paper remain. If there are, blend longer.
 3. The next step is to make a mold. The mold, in this case, is made simply by stretching fiberglass screen (plain old door and window screen) over a wooden frame and stapling it. It should be as tight as possible.
 4. Fill the basin about half way with water. Add 3 blender loads of pulp. (the more pulp you add the thicker the finished paper will be) Stir the mixture.
 5. Now is the time to add the liquid starch for sizing.(This is not necessary but if the paper is going to be used for writing on, you should add some, the starch helps to prevent inks from soaking into the paper fibers.) Stir 2 teaspoons of liquid starch into the pulp.
- Place the mold into the pulp and then level it out while it is submerged. Gently wiggle it side-to-side until the pulp on top of the screen looks even.
6. Slowly lift the mold up until it is above the level of the water. Wait until most of the water has drained from the new paper sheet. If the paper is very thick, remove some pulp from the tub. If it is too thin, add more pulp and stir the mixture again.
 7. When the mold stops dripping, gently place one edge on the side of a fabric square (felt or flannel square). Gently ease the mold down flat, with the paper directly on the fabric. Use a sponge to press out as much water as possible. Wring the excess water from the sponge back into the large plastic tub.
 8. Now comes the tricky part. Hold the fabric square flat and slowly lift the edge of the mold. The wet sheet of paper should remain on the fabric. If it sticks to the mold, you may have pulled to fast or not pressed out enough water. It takes a little practice. You can gently press out any bubbles and loose edges at this point.
 9. Repeat the steps above, and stack the fabric squares on a cookie sheet. Save one fabric square to place on the top of the stack to cover the last piece of paper. Use another cookie sheet to press the remaining water out of the stack. (do this outside or in the bathtub, it can make a mess)
 10. After you press the stack, gently separate the sheets. They can be dried by hanging on a clothesline or laying them out on sheets of newspaper. When they have dried peel them off the fabric and voila! you have paper!

Appendix D

2012 SVS Arbor Day Celebration advertisement email:

From: svs@bsu.edu (svs@bsu.edu)
To: dkischuk@att.net;
Date: Wed, April 18, 2012 11:15:18 PM
Cc:
Subject: Student Voluntary Services Arbor Day

Do you enjoy environmental community service?

Join ***Student Voluntary Services*** as they partner with the ***Muncie Urban Forestry Program*** for the

Third Annual

SVS Arbor Day celebration.

Volunteers will plant trees in Muncie's West Side Park and teach children how to make recycled paper.

The event will be held Saturday, April 28th from 10:30 to 1:30pm.

Transportation will be provided. Visit bsu.edu/svs to register for the event.

If you have any questions, please contact the event coordinator, Danielle Kischuk, by email

dkischuk@bsu.edu or phone (765) 729-5755.

This message was sent to the following categories:

Student Services: General Student Info
Student Services: Student Organizations

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2012 SVS Arbor Day volunteer reminder email:

From: ksmith2@bsu.edu (ksmith2@bsu.edu)

To: dlkischuk@bsu.edu;

Date: Fri, April 27, 2012 10:30:04 AM

Cc:

Subject: Arbor Day Event

This is just a reminder that you are registered to attend the Student Voluntary Services Arbor Day Event tomorrow.

Please arrive to the SVS office (Student Center room 136) by no later than 10:30am and remember to wear closed toe shoes and clothes that can get dirty. Also, as we will be outside, please dress for the weather.

As the program is full, if you are no longer able to attend, please withdraw from the program so someone else can register in your place.

If you have any questions, please give us a call at 285.2621. And if not, we'll see you in the morning!

Appendix E

The Star Press article:

the **starpress.com**
the online news source for east central Indiana

Muncie a "Tree City USA" for 14th straight year

MUNCIE -- The cold, steady rain and the 40-degree temperatures did little to stop those hoping to observe Arbor Day in Muncie Saturday morning.

And having a reason to celebrate made those less-than-ideal weather conditions that much more bearable.

At Saturday's Arbor Day Celebration held at Westside Park, Muncie Mayor Dennis Tyler announced that, for a 14th straight year, the city was recognized as a "Tree City USA" by the Arbor Day Foundation.

Muncie is just one of 66 cities statewide that earned the Tree City distinction this year.

"That makes Muncie a pretty important and pretty special town for investing in its community and its trees," said Carrie Tauscher, volunteer coordinator with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division for Forestry, Community and Urban Forestry.

To earn the "Tree City" title, cities must have a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, spend at least \$2 per capita per year on its forestry program and observe Arbor Day.

"I think it means we want to be a clean city and we want to be a green city," Tyler said.

Kellie McClellan, the city of Muncie's urban forester, said she has appreciated the city's support.

"I've had this job for 10 years, and we've been a Tree City every year, so that's always my goal," McClellan said. "It's good that this mayor supports the urban forestry program and that he's here, he's supporting the program, the money's there -- and I just couldn't be more pleased."

Saturday's Arbor Day Celebration also featured several other programs for children and adults alike who were looking to improve upon their tree knowledge.

Adults were learning about how to protect their property from the dangers of emerald ash borer, an invasive, half-inch-long, metallic-green beetle from Asia that is prevalent in Muncie.

Kristy Stultz, a nursery inspector and

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Star Press article continued:

the starpress.com

the online news source for east central indiana

compliance officer who works with the state DNR's division of entomology and plant pathology, was fielding several questions about the emerald ash borer Saturday.

"Everybody loves their trees, even if they can't identify them," Stultz said. "It would be a shame to let it go like we have other species, so I'm just trying to let people know anything about EAB and what they can keep their eye on for their trees, and if they want to help try to save them, I can give them the information to do that."

Kids, meanwhile, were enjoying a face-painting station and a how-to session about proper planting methods -- under the comfort of one of the park's shelters.

"We used to think when I was a kid that trees just gave us our oxygen and that's all they did," McClellan said. "But we know now that trees clean the air, they clean the water. And that's what I want kids to know: That they're important in that aspect."

Contact reporter Andrew Walker at 213-5845. Find him on Twitter at www.twitter.com/AndrewWalkerTSP



Duke Williams (right) lays a cloth over a piece of paper he made with the help of Courtney Winter to celebrate Arbor Day on Saturday at Westside Park. The Muncie Urban Forestry Committee held an Arbor Day Celebration filled with tree giveaways, tree planting demonstrations, paper making and more. / Ashley L. Conti / The Star Press

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Photos from the 2012 event:



Image 1: Volunteers preparing the children's papermaking activity.



Image 2: A volunteer tries to free a root-bound tree from its plastic container.



Image 3: Volunteers teaching children how to make recycled paper.



Image 4: Students mulching and watering a newly planted tree.



Image 5: SVS volunteers gathered around the Tree City USA banner.



Image 6: Volunteers evaluating the depth of a hole.